International Institute of Communications

North America Digital Communications and Media Forum, Washington D.C.

Date: 9th - 10th December 2025

Location: Washington DC, USA

Agenda: Tuesday 9 December 2025

08:30 - 09:00: Registration & networking

09:00 - 09:30: Welcome

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications
Will Johnson, Senior Vice President & Deputy General Counsel, Federal Regulatory & International Public Policy, Verizon Communications; Board Director, International Institute of Communications

09:30 - 10:00: FCC Keynote

Olivia Trusty, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission

10:00 - 11:00: New paradigms in spectrum policy and decision making

- Licensing approaches to facilitate efficient use of spectrum and drive innovation
- Evolution of spectrum regulatory frameworks, domestically and internationally
- Utilising technology and data analytics to enable better decision making
- Enhancing planning models and spectrum monitoring capabilities

Moderator
Anthony Rosen, Legal Director, Bird & Bird LLP
Keynote
Ajit Pai, President and CEO, CTIA
Speakers
David Willis, Group Director, Spectrum, Ofcom UK
Becky Tangren, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, North America, Nokia
Bill Davenport, Senior Director for Technology and Spectrum Policy, Cisco Systems

11:00 - 11:30: Networking break

11:30 - 12:00: Transatlantic updates

• Regulatory simplification and the EU Digital Omnibus package
• Protection of minors, age-verification and the EU Digital Identity Framework / EU Business Wallet
• Looking ahead to the Digital Networks Act and the Cloud Act

Johannes Bahrke, Digital Counselor, European Union Delegation to the United States
In conversation with
Will Johnson, Senior Vice President & Deputy General Counsel, Federal Regulatory & International Public Policy, Verizon Communications; Board Director, International Institute of Communications

12:00 - 13:00: Cybersecurity and critical infrastructure protection - trusted networks as the foundation of digital transformation

• How are universal connectivity, hyperconnectivity, the expansion of mobile comms and AI increasing the surface area to be protected and therefore the sophistication of cyberthreats?
• Implementing
cyber

resilience frameworks which recognise that no system is without vulnerabilities
• What are the public policy and regulatory considerations, not only to prevent cyber incidents but also to minimize their impact, maintain stakeholder trust, and protect strategic value?
• What are the best examples of collaboration across supply chains and across borders to counter the cyberthreat landscape?
• Establishing trust – roles for vendors, enterprises and governments

Moderator
Evelyn L. Remaley, Partner, Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP
Speakers
Emma Sävenborg, Director of Government and Policy Advocacy Americas, Ericsson
Chris Oatway, Managing Associate General Counsel, Verizon Communications
Ambassador Stephan A. Lang, Senior Advisor, Crest Hill Advisors LLC

13:00 - 14:00: Networking lunch

14:00 - 15:30: Deep dive: Telecom, media and digital regulatory priorities in Latin America

Moderator
Ambassador Stephan A. Lang, Senior Advisor, Crest Hill Advisors LLC
Speakers
Alexandre Moraes, Deputy Head of the International Affairs Office, Anatel
Mauricio Vera Sánchez, Commissioner Audiovisual Content, Commission for Communications Regulation of Colombia (CRC)
Pau Puig Gabarró, Telecommunications Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank

15:30 - 16:00: Networking break

16:00 - 16:20: Keynote

Heba Shams, Vice President for Multilateral and International Affairs, Mastercard

16:20 - 17:20: WSIS+20 Review and the future of Internet governance

Exploring the draft WSIS+20 Outcome Document scheduled for consideration and adoption by the United Nations General Assembly at its High-Level meeting on December 16 and 17. The panel will unpack the key insights of this document and its implications for the future of Internet governance, especially in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.

Moderator

Fiona Alexander, Co-Founder, Salt Point Strategies

Speakers

Cheryl Miller, Vice President, Digital Policy, USCIB

Elizabeth Oluoch, Government and IGO Engagement Director – UN/ITU, ICANN

Jennifer Chung, Vice President, Policy, DotAsia Organisation

John Perrino, Senior Policy and Advocacy Expert, Internet Society

17:20 - 17:30: Closing remarks

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

17:30 - 18:45: Networking reception

Join us for drinks at the Networking Reception, which also includes an exclusive opportunity to enjoy a guided tour of the Verizon Technology and Policy Centre.

Agenda: Wednesday 10 December 2025

08:30 - 09:15: Registration & networking

09:15 - 09:30: Welcome

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

09:30 - 10:00: Fireside chat

Dr Giulia McHenry, Senior Vice President – Public Policy, AT&T Services, Inc.

In conversation with

Ambassador David Gross, Partner, Wiley Rein LLP, USA; Advisory Council, International Institute of Communications

10:00 - 11:00: In conversation: US Government updates on national and international priorities

Speakers

Adam Cassady, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Deputy Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

Arpan Sura, Senior Counsel and Chief AI Officer, Federal Communications Commission

In conversation with

Ambassador David A Gross, Partner, Wiley Rein LLP, USA; Advisory Council, International Institute of Communications

11:00 - 11:30: Networking break

11:30 - 11:45: Streamlining subsea and fiber deployment

Kelly Donohue, Global Head of Network Infrastructure Policy, Meta

11:45 - 12:45: Infrastructure in an AI-centric world: pipes, power, policy, and public trust

- What are the expectations for capacity growth due to AI?
- Introducing the new American AI Exports Program
- What is the business response to the capacity challenges of AI? Capital investment, changes in the structure of networks …
- What are the current regulatory challenges? How are companies dealing with those challenges? Permitting challenges? Data sovereignty requirements?
- Are there ways in which governments can ease those permitting challenges?
- What will happen if we don't meet the capacity challenge?

Moderator

Grace Koh, Vice President for Government Relations, Ciena

Speakers

Bill Guidera, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Services, International Trade Administration (ITA), U.S. Department of Commerce

Zaid Zaid, Director, Head of US Public Policy, Cloudflare

Matt Pearl, Director of the Strategic Technologies Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Maureen K. Russell, Acting Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy Analysis & Development (OPAD), National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

12:45 - 13:15: State, federal and international readout: online safety and the protection of minors

Stephen Balkam, Founder & CEO, Family Online Safety Institute

In conversation with

Bill Guidera, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Services, International Trade Administration (ITA), US Department of Commerce

13:15 - 14:15: Networking lunch

14:15 - 15:15: Deep dive: From policy to protection: the regulatory front line of voice security

As scammers evolve, so do the strategies from the FCC, FTC and other key agencies to shut them down. In this essential update, Somos' Heather Hendrickson is joined by a panel of experts to unpack recent developments in robocall enforcement, spam mitigation and the increasing role of Do Not Originate (DNO) for voice calls. With expert insights from regulatory staff, learn what's shaping the future of voice security and what it means for those building trusted communication pathways.

Moderator

Heather Hendrickson, Senior Director of Number Administration Strategy, Somos

Speakers

Will Maxson, Assistant Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Division of Marketing Practices, Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

Chris Laughlin, Deputy Division Chief, Competition Policy Division Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
Wesley Platt, Chief, Consumer Policy Division, Information Access and Privacy Office, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

15:15 - 15:45: From policy to performance: lessons in execution from the $60 billion DoD IT portfolio

Leslie Beavers, Former Acting Chief Information Officer, Department of Defense, offers a unique, results-driven perspective on translating complex global digital policy (AI, cybersecurity, spectrum) into verifiable, executable reality. Drawing on experience managing a $60 billion IT portfolio and implementing Lean Six Sigma methodologies in high-stakes government and Fortune 50 environments, this keynote presents three essential principles for success: Demanding Accountability through process discipline; Building Coalitions to achieve true international interoperability; and Informing the Future by embedding continuous learning and context into governance models. Learn how to transform strategy from an abstract concept into durable, actionable capability.

15:45 - 16:00: Closing remarks

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications